

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Steven SMITH et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW CONTINUATION APPLICATION GROUP: UNASSIGNED

FILED: HEREWITH

EXAMINER: UNASSIGNED

FOR: 2A IMPROVEMENTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-noted application  
as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 18, 29, 31, 39, 43, 44, 45, 47 and 50 to read as  
follows:

1. (Amended) An article of footwear, which comprises:

a vamp;

a lower support connected to said vamp, said lower support including a  
midsole; and

at least one insert mounted in said midsole and which includes first and second  
airtight casings each having a plurality of elements positioned therein which are  
elastically deformable such that the biomechanics of a foot of a user are optimized,  
said first and second casings being interconnected by a bridging portion for  
permitting flexibility between said first and second casings, said deformable elements